



NEWS RELEASE

**NELSON P. COHEN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513-7567 • (907) 271-5071

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, January 10, 2008**

08-04

**ANCHORAGE MAN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS IN PRISON FOR
USING THE INTERNET TO ATTEMPT TO SEND OBSCENITY TO A MINOR**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, January 10, 2008, that Michael C. Rabon of Anchorage, Alaska, was sentenced to a term of seven years in prison for using the Internet to attempt to send obscene materials to a minor.

Rabon, age 25, was sentenced by United States District Court Judge Timothy M. Burgess.

According to the indictment, on May 22, 2007, Rabon, using the screen name "getmilk69" met someone in a Yahoo Alaska-specific chat room who identified herself as a 13-year-old Anchorage girl. Between May 22, 2007 and June 11, 2007, Rabon chatted online with the 13-year-old Anchorage girl using Yahoo Instant Messenger and his cell phone text messaging function. During their online conversations, Rabon told the girl he was 25 years old. He used graphic sexual language and arranged to meet the 13-year-old girl to have sex. After asking if she was interested, Rabon engaged in lengthy, detailed conversations about what would happen during their sexual encounter. During their online conversations, Rabon kept asking the girl if she had told anyone about their plans. During these on-line chat sessions Rabon sent by electronic mail four obscene photographs of himself via the internet to someone he believed to be under the age of 17.

Rabon set up a meeting with the girl to take place at a local park on June 11, 2007. When Rabon appeared at the meeting place, he was arrested by agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement with the assistance of the Alaska State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department.

Assistant United States Attorney Steven E. Skrocki, who presented the case, informed the court that Rabon used a communications system in interstate commerce to send obscene photographs of himself to a person he believed was under 17 years of age. AUSA Skrocki informed the court that the parties agreed to a sentence of seven years in prison in exchange for dismissing the remaining count of the indictment.

Rabon's sentence includes a three-year term of supervised release with monitoring by the United States Probation Service. As part of that three-year term, Rabon is prohibited from using the internet, possessing a computer, cell phone or other electronic device with access to the internet, and must inform any prospective employer about his conviction and inability to have access to the internet. Rabon is also prohibited from frequenting places where children or teens gather and cannot maintain employment where access to young children or teenagers will occur. Additionally, Rabon is prohibited from being in company with his own children without prior approval from the Probation Office.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Alaska State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department conducted the investigation leading to the conviction of Rabon.

The agencies' cooperative efforts are part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the United States Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood combines federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafecchildhood.gov/.

###